



The

# GARzette

The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
March 2012 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 21, Issue 3



## 2009 Goshen Tank Antenna Removal



Getting UP, just to take it DOWN!

## A Note from our President

**G**ARS is growing. We are now **two hundred ten** members strong, and growing every month. On the heels of John Ackerman, N8UR, getting so many of us looking into Software Defined Radio and a very fun Lazy Fox direction finding adventure, now we are heading into March. Admittedly, March is a light month this year for GARS, but I like to think of it as a breather before the extremely busy months of April, May, and June.

**G**ARS is gearing up for the Georgia QSO party in April (14<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>). Right now, we plan to operate as at least two club stations, one in Gwinnett and a second one in Greene county. You can help out the club by operating from your home and turning in your logs with GARS as your club. But the *real* fun is coming out to help operate at one of our club locations. You are welcome, invited, and encouraged to come out, help out, and operate at one of the club locations. There will be more information on the locations forthcoming in the next few weeks.

**M**ay brings us the GARS *May Madness* club contest for GARS members contacting GARS members on simplex. Extra points for working new GARS members, and for helping others make contacts. It promises to be a *ton of fun* and I, for one, cannot wait. Contest rules will be announced at the meeting and then be available on the GARS website.

**W**ishing you great health, wealth, and may all your contacts be 59,

*Kyle* W4KDA



Kyle Albritton—W4KDA

### Our Program for this Month's Meeting

**"T32C, DXPEDITION to Kitimati (Christmas Island)"**

Next GARS Monthly Meeting is  
March 13, 2012  
at EAA 690 Hangar at Briscoe Field  
Lawrenceville, GA

Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each  
month at 7pm.



By Paul Manno, KG4UVU

**Don't miss it!**



## GARS "Lazy Fox" DF Adventure Recap

The GARS "Lazy Fox" was a great deal of fun, and turned out to be far more challenging than expected. Even though the transmit power was low, all of the groups thought the transmitter was several miles from its real location. Even though the transmitter was omni directional, reflections always make direction finding a demanding endeavour.



A hiccup slowed the start of the adventure. The fox was tested at home and was working well before traveling to the site. Winds were around 25-30mph and while setting up at the site, the car door slammed shut and broke the coax on the transmitter antenna. I did not have a backup coax (this was not a contingency I had planned for!), so a quick call to Karen KI4HPP resulted in the speedy delivery of a replacement feedline and the fox hunt began.

For the hunters, the outing started at a site near the Golden Coral in Lawrenceville right after the weekly GARS family breakfast. After a few short hours, David Adcock KA4KKF and Bill Cherepy WB4WTN found the fox at the Hardees in Buford at the intersection of Buford Highway and Georgia 20. They were not only the first to find it, but also did it with the fewest miles traveled. Later, as all the teams showed up, the best part of the hunt began... we enjoyed some burgers, laughed, and shared stories together.

*Kyle* W4KDA



### Coming sooner than you think - Field Day 2012

How many hams does it take to make a Field Day Contact?

<— In 2006 it looks like it took 6.

*Norm* WA4ZXV

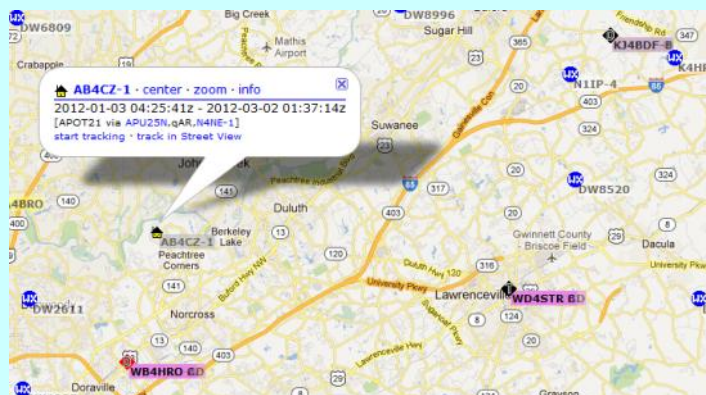
## GARS APRS DIGI + TX IGATE

Most of you know that GARS has run a [Digipeater](#) on APRS for years. Well this year, it has morphed into a bigger machine and can do more. The radio and TNC are the same, but we added a Celeron computer running [CentOS Linux](#) and the application called [APRX](#). This Linux box connects to the KPC TNC running in [KISS](#) mode. It still does the Digipeater stuff, but it can also send and receive messages through the IGATE function. Another function is the beacons that can be programmed. We are also looking to add another Digipeater if needed in the county.

If you are into APRS and have experience sending messages on APRS, try it out. Let us know what you see and how it works.

If you go to <http://aprs.fi> and magnify WD4STR you will see W4GR-10 too.

The Satellite view is neat. The WD4STR logo lays on top of W4GR-10, but it is there.



This web page also shows nearby stations that have recently beacons. Click on a WX icon and check out the weather info for that location. If you click on any stations icon and select info, it will give you info on that station.

There are many web sites that you can find with information on APRS. The following is a list of just a few. <http://findu.com>, <http://aprs.org>. And, you can always use Google to find more information on APRS.

73,

*David* KA4KKF

## Repeater News de Mike, ND4V

From the chatter on the repeater, I knew the long awaited day was here. David KA4KKF, Eddie WD4JEM, Jeff AB4HF, Kevin KF4HFN and John WB4QDX were at the site with United Tower of Monroe to put up the new repeater antennas.

Many of you will remember that a couple of years ago, the County removed the Growing Gwinnett water tanks on I-85 near Jimmy Carter Boulevard. Those tanks had been the home to a GARS remote receiver site. Since then, there has been a hole in our handheld and mobile coverage for the Norcross area.

Hopefully by the time you read this, that hole has been plugged. The club raised enough in donations to fund the purchase of new antennas, hardline, and hardware to re-install its 147.075 repeater remote receiver and to accommodate the return of the 442.100 repeater to the site adjacent to the former water tanks. Permission was received from Gwinnett County to put antennas on the Goshen Springs tower near the 200 feet level. Our remote receivers and control link are in a secure building below the tower provided with a reliable AC supply and generator backup.

Around lunch time, I donned my hard hat, strapped on the Nikon and the long lens, and rode over. The tower does not look so high from a distance. But, when I got closer, I realized the speck at the end of



the rope going up the tower was a person. I decided right then I was glad to have an indoor job! And, dang, that spool of hardline would make the wireman envious.

I know that a lot went on before I arrived and I wish I had been there earlier to get pictures of the other participants. Rest assured their efforts are also appreciated!

*(Continued on page 6)*



*(Chatter on the Repeater...Continued from page 5)*

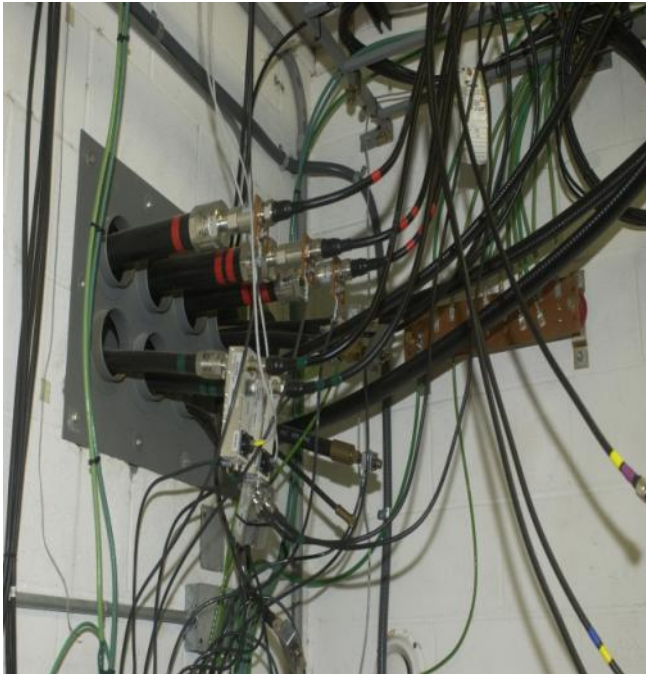


Judging from the effort that Eddie and the fellow from United Tower were putting into pulling up the hardline, a couple of hundred feet of that stuff along with a bag full of cable clamps gets pretty heavy.

Jeff assembled the link antenna and he and John tested it for SWR and here Jeff gives it an "All OK".



John readied the inside of the building with smaller coax cables to marry up to the hard line and prepared the cabinet to receive the repeater and remote receiver.



Thanks to Kevin KJ4SUJ for storing the parts while all was being assembled, and to John WB4QDX who was primary liaison with the County government, and to John, David, and Eddie who led the parts acquisition bidding and ordering process and kept us within budget. Thanks also to Kyle who kept after everyone with the "git 'er done" cattle prod.

Finally, a big "Thank You" to the repeater committee (David and Eddie) for maintaining, programming, and in general just keeping everything in the system playing well together.

*(Continued on page 7)*

*(Chatter on the Repeater... Continued from page 6)*

For the financially minded, what went on the tower was \$6,200 dollars of equipment, feed line, mounting hardware, plus \$3,500 in installation costs. **So please consider making a donation to the repeater fund as you renew your dues.**

For the technically minded, the equipment includes:

440.100 Mhz, PL 100.0 Hz tone: The repeater is a Hummer II (Motorola MSR 5000) currently putting out about 80 watts to a 9db collinear vertical UHF antenna on a six foot standoff bracket with 280 feet of 7/8" hardline. You may remember this repeater as K4HUM. It was previously set up by Mike, K4HBI, using one of the former water tank antennas. It was moved to Lawrenceville to remain on the air until this project could be completed. It is now ID'ing as W4GR and *pegs the needle* at my QTH here in Norcross. **Note:** Eddie, WD4JEM, reports he can work the repeater mobile from Vinings, GA.

The 147.675 GE MVP remote receiver listens on a 6db gain folded dipole VHF antenna on a six foot standoff bracket with 240 feet of 7/8" hard line for the 147.075 repeater voting system.

Last, but not least, there is an 11 element yagi link antenna that relays the received signals back to the main repeater in Lawrenceville.

*Mike* ND4V



## Special Event Station

### “T-town Twister”

April 28, 2012  
11:00AM – 5:00PM

The Tuscaloosa Amateur Radio Club (TARC) will be operating a **Special Event Station** in remembrance of the 44 people that died when an EF-4 tornado struck Tuscaloosa, Alabama on April 27, 2011.

This Special Event Station will be active on April 28, 2012 from 11:00AM – 5:00PM local time. We will be operating from the top of the western parking deck (nearest the medical tower) at DCH Regional Medical Center.

Our operating frequencies will be +/- **14.270 and 7.270MHz.**

We will also be operating an RTTY station in the data portion of both the 20m and 40m bands.

73,

*Joel Black* W4JBB

Tuscaloosa Amateur Radio Club *Hamsay* Editor

## IS YOUR FAMILY PREPARED

Severe weather season is approaching in Georgia with the possibility of tornadoes and hurricanes at the top of the list each year. As we have seen in Alabama and other states in the last 2 years, destruction can happen at any time of the day or night with little or no warning.

### Are you Ready?

Here are some guidelines to make sure that you and your family can survive:

1. A working Weather Alert Radio programmed with your local SAME code and the codes for counties to the South West. I also program all surrounding counties into mine.
2. A "Family Action Plan", including meeting places and phone numbers should be written down, discussed with all family members old enough to understand it, and practiced at least three times a year.
3. Bicycle or motorcycle helmets for all family members should be stored next to or under each bed for easy access. The helmet should fit the person and have a secure working strap. The majority of people killed in tornadoes and resulting building collapse are killed by head injuries from falling or flying debris.
4. Have a safe place inside your home where the family always goes in severe weather or when advised to take shelter. An interior room with no windows like a bathroom or a closet are good choices. If you have a full basement or underground storm shelter, that should be your first choice.
5. Each family member should have a backpack or gym bag containing a hat, gloves, warm clothing, shoes for three days, and food items like protein bars and at least a gallon of water. If any person in the family has medication needed to sustain life, a three day supply should be included if possible. A copy of the Family Action Plan should be included in each pack. A working LED flashlight and spare batteries should also be included.
6. Communication of some sort should always be carried by all members of the family old enough to use them. Amateur Radio, cell phones, FRS or GMRS radios, whatever works for you and your family.
7. This list is not all you need, but if you follow these recommendations, your chances of surviving such an event will be greater than for people that choose to take no action to help themselves.

These guidelines are just a minimum starting place for all of us to use to protect our families. Those of us that do a little planning will be better off if something bad happens.

Your feedback is welcomed and I will be contributing this type of self-help article to the GARZETTE each month.

73's

*Phil* N4LNE



## NET MANAGERS CORNER

Hello Everyone from N4LNE, GARS Net Manager! I will be using this section of the Garzette to recognize NCS and ANCS operators for their contributions to GARS every week. Thanks to everyone that has served so far this year!

Below are posted the NCS Stations and ANCS stations that have served so far this year.

### Monday Night Net

DATE	CHECK INS	NCS	ANCS
2/13/2012	24	John WB4QDX	Scott KD4YDD
2/6/2012	33	Sandy KJ4DRO	Bill KK4AUA
1/30/2012	30	Brian N4TRB	Phil N4LNE
1/23/2012	25	Norm WA4ZXV	Phil N4LNE
1/16/2012	32	Ray N4GYN	Phil N4LNE
1/9/2012	24	Hal W4IGE	Sandy KJ4DRO
1/2/2012	28	John WB4QDX	Jeff AB4HF

### Thursday Night Net

DATE	CHECK INS	NCS	ANCS
2/9/2012	13	Kyle W4KDA	Scott KD4YDD
2/2/2012	12	Kyle W4KDA	Bill KK4AUA
1/26/2012	17	David KA4KKF	Phil N4LNE
1/19/2012	10	Bill KK4AUA	
1/12/2012	9	Kyle W4KDA	
1/5/2012	17	Kyle W4KDA	Scott KD4YDD

### Did You Know?

Wikipedia advises that the first official listing of Radio Telegraph stations in Canada and the United States was published in 1909 as the "*First Annual Official Wireless Blue Book of the Wireless Association of America*" and listed 89 amateur radio stations also. You can be sure they were holding nets to talk about what they had invented since the last net. You see, for them it really was all new!

73's and See you on the Nets,

## GARS Membership

To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership,  
please visit our website - <http://www.gars.org>

To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new email address, new phone number, etc.),  
please email the Membership Chairman - [membership@gars.org](mailto:membership@gars.org)

You can renew or update your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free  
- <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>

## METRO ATLANTA AMATEUR RADIO NETS

### Daily

146.76 MHz PL107.2/145.45 Noon Brown Bag Net  
146.79 MHz PL110.9 8:00 PM Sassafras Mtn.  
3.795 MHz 6:00 PM WX & Skywarn

### Sunday

7.275 MHz 9:00 AM Georgia Traders Net  
3.975 MHz 5:00 PM Winter PM GA State ARES  
146.520 5:00-6:00 PM Emergency Simplex  
145.450 7:00 PM Alford Mem. RC Roundtable  
147.060+ 8:30 PM No. Fulton ARES  
146.820- PL146.2 7:30 PM Atlanta Radio Club Net  
147.105+ PL100.0 8:30 PM ATL C.A.R.E.S Net  
146.700- PL123.0 4:30 PM Jasper Radio Club  
50.145 Simplex 9:00 PM Six Meter Net

### Monday

145.450- PL107.2 8:00 PM Decatur A.R.E.S. Net  
145.470- PL100.0 8:30 PM North Fulton Tech. Net  
50.235 USB 8:30 PM Regional Six Meter Net  
145.430 - PL107.2 8:00 PM Cherokee ARES  
146.880 - PL100.0 8:00 PM Cobb Co. A.R.E.S. NET  
147.210+ PL162.2 9:00 PM Rockdale Co. ARES  
147.075+ PL 82.5 8:00 PM Gwinnett **G.A.R.S.**  
147.075+ PL 82.5 9:00 PM Gwinnett **A.R.E.S.**

### Tuesday

146.625- PL123.7 8:00 PM S Fulton ARES  
146.895+ PL 77.0 8:00 PM Dallas  
147.240+ PL103.5 8:00 PM Bartow Co. ARES  
147.150+ 8:00 PM Forsyth Co. ARES

### Wednesday

145.41 - 8:00 PM Chapter 49, QCWA Net  
145.15 - 8:00 PM GA Tech Stinger Net.  
146.67 - PL131.0 8 8:00 PM Hall Co. ARES Net

### Thursday

146.955 - PL77.0 7:00 PM Digital Silver CometARS  
146.955 - PL77.0 8:00 PM, Paulding ARES.  
145.270 - PL100.0 8:00 PM, Cherokee Am. Radio Soc.  
146.88 - PL100.0 8:30 PM, Kennehoochee ARC Net  
147.225+ - 8:00 PM, NE GA ARC  
147.15+ - 8:00 PM, Swap Net  
147.015- PL100.0 9:00 PM, N GA Disaster Relief Team  
147.39+ - PL131.8 9:00 PM Thomaston Net

### Friday

145.11 - PL88.5 8:00 PM Douglas Co. ARES  
147.015 - PL100.0 6:00 PM N GA Disaster Net  
146.76 - PL107.2 Midnight Turnip Truck Net

### Saturday

7.275 MHz 9:00 AM GA Traders Net  
3.857 MHz 9:00 AM Chapter 49, QCWA Net  
146.760- PL107.2 12:00 AM Midnight Turnip Truck Net  
147.015- PL100.0 10:00 PM Hoot Owl Net

## Ham Radio Exams New Licenses & Upgrades

2nd Sunday of Every Month starting  
promptly at 2:00 pm

**Primary areas served:** Gwinnett County, GA  
and the surrounding area

**Sponsor:** Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
(GARS)

**Talk-In:** GARS Repeater on 147.075(+) MHz,  
Tone 82.5 Hz

## Location:

Gwinnett County Fire Station #5 Community  
Room – 3001 Old Norcross Road  
Duluth, GA 30096

Map: [http://maps.google.com/maps?  
q=33.9566,-84.1078](http://maps.google.com/maps?q=33.9566,-84.1078)

## VE Contact:

Dave Bruse W4DTR

E-mail: [w4dtr@arrl.net](mailto:w4dtr@arrl.net)

Phone: 770-623-0149

## What to bring:

- A Photo ID. (Driver's license, Student ID, Passport, etc.)
- Minors must have 2 forms of ID and SS number.
- Your original license and two (2) copies of the original license.
- Your original CSCE and two (2) copies for any outstanding elements passed.
- A pen and a pencil with eraser.
- Calculators with memory must be cleared. Cell phones are not allowed.
- Current Exam Fee is \$14.00. Cash only. Checks are not accepted.
- Walk-ins are welcome.  
*No pre-registration required.*

**VEC: W5YI-VEC**

*Dave Bruse* W4DTR

Email: [w4dtr@arrl.net](mailto:w4dtr@arrl.net)

# GARS Email Group

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS/>

Join the GARS Yahoo Group if you are not already a member. To do so, go to the GARS Yahoo Group web site (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS/>) and then click on the Join This Group! link on the main page.

If you have joined the group, you can Post a message by sending an email to [GARS@yahoogroups.com](mailto:GARS@yahoogroups.com)

The Yahoo Group is for GARS friends and members to share information, ask questions, and make announcements.

This is your group and each member is welcome to post questions or comments relating to amateur radio. Use it! With all the new hams in the area, this is great place to ask for help. There's someone out there reading the emails that can help.

Also, join us on **facebook**: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/315255321681/>

**To Learn & Have Fun**



- **147.075+ 82.5**
- Meetings 2nd Tuesday Jan-Nov
- Multiple nets every week
- Gigantic Field Day
- Large, Active, Diverse Club
- Family Oriented

**www.gars.org**



**Hands-Only™  
CPR**

**1**



**Call 911**

**2**



**Push hard and fast in  
the center of the chest.**  
Learn more at [handsonlycpr.org](http://handsonlycpr.org)

American Heart  
Association



Learn and Live

## The GARzette

The *GARzette* is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by email to [n4gyn@arrl.net](mailto:n4gyn@arrl.net). Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The *GARzette* articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

*The GARzette* is published each month with the assistance of Norm Schklar, W4ZXV who prints copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the news letter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 25th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

Newsletter Editor: Ray Bailey—N4GYN  
770-689-6620 or [n4gyn@arrl.net](mailto:n4gyn@arrl.net)



## **JOIN ARRL - OR - RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP THROUGH GARS**

Help the GARS Treasury by applying for ARRL membership or renewing your ARRL membership through GARS. By applying for ARRL membership through GARS we are able to keep \$15.00 of each new membership fee for our Treasury. We can keep \$2.00 from each renewal.

Show your support for both organizations by applying through GARS.

Ralph Pickwick – KJ4CNC, GARS Treasurer, will have the ARRL applications at the monthly meetings for your use. We only ask that you don't wait until the last minute to renew, as we will only be sending the applications to ARRL on a monthly basis. We will only be accepting personal checks with the applications (no PayPal).

If you have any questions concerning this process, please contact Ralph at KJ4CNC@arrl.net.



## **UPCOMING HAMFEST CALENDAR**

### **Southeast US**



#### **03/03/2012 | Alabama Section Convention (BirmingHamfest)**

**Location:** Birmingham, AL

**Type:** ARRL Convention,  
pending Executive Committee approval

**Sponsor:** Birmingham Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://w4cue.com>

#### **03/17/2012 | 59th Annual Kennehoochee Hamfest**

**Location:** Marietta, GA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Kennehoochee ARC

**Website:** [http://www.w4bti.org/hamfest\\_2012.html](http://www.w4bti.org/hamfest_2012.html)

#### **04/28/2012 | Calhoun Hamfest**

**Location:** Sugar Valley, GA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Cherokee Capital Amateur Radio Society

**Website:** <http://www.k4woc.com>

#### **05/12/2012 | Ellijay Hamfest**

**Location:** Ellijay, GA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Ellijay Amateur Radio Society

**Website:** <http://www.ngamtn.com/w4hhh/>

#### **05/12/2012 | Heart of Georgia Hamfest**

**Location:** Byron, GA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Central GA ARC, Middle GA Radio Club,  
& BMSRC

**Website:** <http://wa4ort.com>

#### **06/02/2012 | Georgia Section Convention (Atlanta Hamfest)**

**Location:** Marietta, GA

**Type:** ARRL Convention pending Executive Committee  
approval

**Sponsor:** Atlanta Radio Club

**Website:** <http://www.atlantahamfest.com>

# BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You

IF YOU are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy outdoor activities, and have an interest in radio technology,  
**Venture Crew 73 is for you.**

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.
- Venture crew 73 is coed.
- Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at EAA 690 Hangar at:  
Briscoe Field - Sports Aviation Complex  
Hangar 1, 690 Airport Road  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month.

We enjoy:

- ◇ Camping
- ◇ Hiking
- ◇ Horseback Riding
- ◇ Shooting Sports

- Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of Amateur Radio.
- For more information, attend our next meeting or contact:

**Steve Back, WB2OGY**

Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman

Phone: 770-712-9069

Email: [committeechair@venturecrew73.org](mailto:committeechair@venturecrew73.org)

**Jeff Lee, AF4JL**

Venture Crew 73 Advisor

Phone: 678-475-3165

Email: [advisor@venturecrew73.org](mailto:advisor@venturecrew73.org)



## GARS Officers and Committee Chairs

Kyle Albritton, President	W4KDA
Earl Whatley, Vice President	AF4FG
Hal Collier, Secretary	W4IGE
Ralph Pickwick, Treasurer, Apparel Manager	KJ4CNC
Sandy Jackson, Program Manager	KJ4DRO
Dave Bruse, Membership Chairman, VE Team	W4DTR
David Adcock, Webmaster, Field Day Chairman	KA4KKF
Dorothy Jubon, Public Information Officer	N2DLJ
Norm Schklar, TechFest Chairman	WA4ZXV
Ray Bailey, GARzette Editor	N4GYN
Jeff Cutchins Multimedia Chairman	AB4HF
Bill Cherepy, W4GR Trustee	WB4WTN
Eddie Foust, Repeater Chairman	WD4JEM
Mike Weathers, WAS-Checker	ND4V
Phil McCleary, Net Manager	N4LNE
Mike Swiderski, Technical Advisor	K4HBI

## GARS Communications

<u>2 Meter Repeater</u> 147.075(+) MHz 82.5 PL Tone	<u>2 Meter Repeater</u> 147.255(+) MHz 107.2 PL Tone
<u>APRS</u> 144.390 -- 1200 Baud W4GR	<u>6 Meter Repeater</u> 53.110 (-1 MHz) 82.5 PL Tone
<u>D-Star</u> WD4STR 145.060 + (1.4 MHz) 440.550 + (5 MHz)	<u>70 Cm Repeaters</u> 444.525(+) MHz 82.5 PL Tone 442.100(+) 82.5 PL Tone
Main Repeater Site Oak Street, Lawrenceville	Backup Repeater Site Lanier Mountain, Snellville

**The following members are  
celebrating birthdays  
in March:**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**  
**From All of Us at GARS**

**Jody Ackermann (KC8KDC)**

**Herbert Allen (KI4RMC)**

**Rich Arland (K7SZ)**

**Deidra Atkin**

**David Bruse (W4DTR)**

**Michael Clinton Dabney (KI4ZVY)**

**Claire Donoghue (K9CJD)**

**Cecil Duncan (KD4ZEM)**

**Lewis Eberhardt (KE4QOV)**

**James Greene (KG4ZZD)**

**Jason Hilborn (KD4BGE)**

**Kevin Hoynoski (W3PIG)**

**Perry Luthi (KI4YYY)**

**Dipankar Sarkar (KK4DFN)**

**Vester Scott (N8EKA)**

**Ed Woodrick (WA4YIH)**

**GARS Recurring Calendar**

- ♦ Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm
- ♦ Every Monday at 8pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2-meter repeater
- ♦ Every Thursday at 9pm: GARS Round Table Net, 2 & 6 Meters
- ♦ Every Saturday at 7:30am: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville

**Meeting Minutes  
GARS General Meeting Feb. 8th, 2011**

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, GARS President, called the meeting to order at 7:01pm at the EAA building.

Introductions of first time visitors and others present.

**Treasurer's Report** – Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC,

**Membership** – Dave Bruse, W4DTR, reported the following:

Dennis Nichols, WB4TID, voted in as new member.

Bruce Lindsey, K0GNB, voted in as new member.

Gary F Smith II, AK4PT, voted in as new member.

Vaden McDonald, NN4K, voted in as new member.

Leon Urban, KK4DFP, voted in as new member.

Roger Cohen, WB2EMD, voted in as new member.

GARS has 210 active members

**Program Manager** – Sandy Jackson, KJ4DRO, announced:

**March's program** will be "T32C, DXpedition to Kiti-mati (Christmas Island)" by Paul Manno, KG4UVU.

**April's program** will be "How to turn a bale of wire and fiberglass into a hex beam" by Bruce Brown, WA8IQF.

**May's program** will be "JT65 and Other Digital Modes" by Kyle Albritton, W4KDA.

**Club officer elections** were held and the current officers were re-elected. There were no new nominations:

**President** – Kyle Albritton, W4KDA (incumbent)

**Vice-President** – Earl Whatley, AF4FG (incumbent)

**Treasurer** – Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC (incumbent)

**Secretary** – Hal Collier, W4IGE (incumbent)

**Program Manager** - Sandy Jackson, KJ4DRO (incumbent).

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, announced:

There is a *new* 2 way APRS I-Gate on the air in Lawrenceville.

The 442.100 repeater is *on the air* at Goshen Springs and is performing very well.

The 147.075 *remote receive site* at the Goshen Springs is **operational!**

Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV, announced the GA QSO Party on April 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, announced that on April 28<sup>th</sup> there will be a work party at the Lawrenceville repeater location.

Earl Whatley, AF4FG, reminded everyone that GARS will be assisting with the Dacula Memorial Day Parade on May 28<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed

Earl Whatley, AF4FG, announced the May Madness contest for GARS members May 1-31. More details will be announced soon.

**\*\* Break \*\***

Program was "A Different View of Software Defined Radio" by John Ackermann, N8UR.

**\*\* Prize Drawing \*\***

**There were 44 attendees at the meeting.**

Meeting ended at 8:39pm

*Hal Collier* W4IGE, Secretary



## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS STARTS MARCH 11TH



### What's new on the WEB SITE?

- ◆ You should notice a change to the user menu. It will change when you log in to give you more options.
- ◆ The Apparel link now features PAYPAL to order your GARS Apparel, as well as downloading an order form.
- ◆ Are you using the web site to renew your membership? You can use PayPal to renew only your GARS membership or become a new member.
- ◆ The ARRL renewal must be done in person with the Treasurer.
- ◆ Do you get the GARZETTE from the web site? It's in the File Download menu selection in the Newsletter Folder.

73, *David* KA4KKF

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Today <span>March 2012</span> <span>▼</span> <span>Print</span> <span>Week</span> <span>Month</span> <span>Agenda</span> <span>▼</span>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 8pm GARS 2m Net	27	28	29	Mar 1 9pm GARS Round Table Net	2	3 7:30 Breakfast at Golden Coral
4 8pm GARS 2m Net	5	6 6:30pm GARS Exec Meeting	7	8 9pm GARS Round Table Net	9	10 7:30 Breakfast at Golden Coral
11 <b>Daylight Savings Begins</b>	12 8pm GARS 2m Net	13 5pm Dinner @ Flying Machine <u>7pm GARS Meeting</u>	14	15 9pm GARS Round Table Net	16	17 7:30 Breakfast at Golden Coral
18 8pm GARS 2m Net	19	20	21	22 9pm GARS Round Table Net	23	24 7:30 Breakfast at Golden Coral
25 8pm GARS 2m Net	26	27	28	29 9pm GARS Round Table Net	30	31 7:30 Breakfast at Golden Coral

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time



## Metro Testing Sessions

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at <http://www.arrl-ga.org>.

### First Sunday, ODD Months

2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov)  
WCARS VEC

Braselton Public Utility Building  
4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA  
Roger Gibson, WB4T  
(770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560

### First Sunday, EVEN Months

2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)  
WCARS VEC  
Johnson High School  
3305 Poplar Springs Rd, Gainesville, GA  
Perry Roper, KO4RD  
(770) 536-3056

### Second Saturday, ODD Months

ARRL VEC  
8:30 a.m.  
Stone Mountain Methodist Church  
5312 West Mountain St.  
Stone Mountain  
Bob Varone, W4ETN  
(770) 978-3179

### Second Sunday

VEC: W5YI  
2 pm (effective Jan 2012)  
Gwinnett County Fire Station #5  
3001 Old Norcross Road  
Duluth, GA 30096  
Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR  
Email: [w4dtr@arrl.net](mailto:w4dtr@arrl.net)

### Third Saturday

VEC: W5YI  
3 pm (Except December)  
Auburn City Hall Council Room  
1369 Fourth Avenue  
Auburn, GA  
Steve Donellan, N5SMD  
(404) 520-0368

(cont. next column)

## Ham Exam Results for February 12, 2012

My retirement from being the Contact VE was short lived when Dave Bruse (W4DTR) asked me to fill in as the Contact VE at the February Ham Exam session while he was out of town. We had eight VE's present and there were four applicants that came to the Ham Exam session.

### VE's present:

Frank Saucianas	KF4TQV
Sidney Weaver	N4NQ
Steve Back	WB2OGY
John Kludt	K4SQC
Brian Page	N4TRB
Mark Fehlig	WA6NGC
Robert Pursley	WD4KQQ
Bill Cherepy	WB4WTN

### Ham Exam results:

2 new Technicians  
1 failed Technician  
1 Grandfather'd from Technician to General. Also passed the Extra exam.

Once again, thanks to all the VE's that volunteer their time at these exam sessions.

Thanks & 73,

*Frank Saucianas*, KF4TQV

### Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC  
7 pm @ United Way Service Center  
6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville  
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK  
(770) 942-6466

### Fourth Sunday

2:30 pm Georgia Tech  
VanLeer Elec. Building  
Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr.  
See [www.w4aql.com](http://www.w4aql.com)  
Alexander G. Carver  
(404) 894-2936  
[acarver@ece.gatech.edu](mailto:acarver@ece.gatech.edu)

## Metro Club Meetings

### First Tuesday

Kennehoochee ARC  
Downtown Marietta  
Fire Station #1, Training Room  
112 Haynes Street  
Marietta, Georgia 30060  
Meeting begins at 7:00pm  
Talk In 146.880(-)

### First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club  
Georgia Red Cross HQ  
1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta  
Meeting is at 7:30pm  
Talk In -146.820(-)  
N.E. Georgia ARC  
Commerce Public Library  
Meeting is at 6:30pm  
Talk In - 147.225(+)  
PL 123.0

### Second Monday

Georgia Tech ARC  
Room W218  
Van Leer Electrical  
Engineering Bldg.  
Georgia Tech Campus  
Meeting at 7:00pm

### Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club  
Annistown Road Baptist Church  
Intersection of Annistown  
Rd & Spain Rd  
Stone Mountain  
Dinner at 6:00pm  
Meeting at 7:30pm  
Talk In - 146.760(-)

### Second Saturday

North GA QRP Club  
Board Room of The  
Shepherd Center at  
2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta  
at 10:00 AM

### Third Tuesday

North Fulton Amateur Radio  
League  
Masonic Lodge  
194 Milton Avenue  
Alpharetta, Georgia  
meeting at 7:30pm  
Talk In - 145.47(-)

For more, go to: <http://www.gars.org/>



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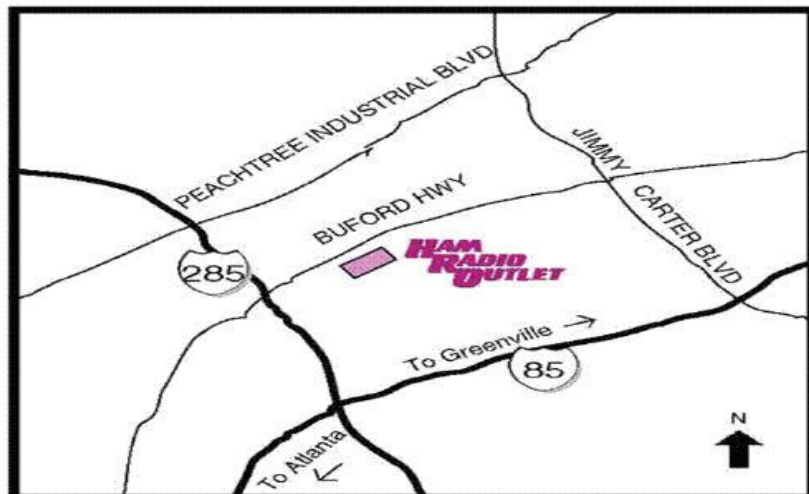
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